



AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

CANBERRA

FOR RELEASE: 11 A.M. 27 FEBRUARY 1976

Reference No. 6.37

WAGE RATES INDEXES : DECEMBER 1975 (PRELIMINARY)

MAIN FEATURES

- Weighted average minimum weekly wage rates increased by two cents for adult males in December 1975. No increase was recorded for adult females.
- Annual increases for the twelve months ended December 1975 were 11.3 per cent for adult males and 18.2 per cent for adult females.
- The weighted average weekly rate for adult females is now 92.1 per cent of the rate for adult males, compared with 86.8 per cent in December 1974.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

This statement contains figures of weighted average minimum weekly and hourly wage rates and index numbers for adult males and adult females for December 1975 and corresponding figures for some earlier months. More information on these statistics will appear later in the monthly bulletin *Wage Rates and Earnings* (Reference No. 6.16) which also contains explanatory notes covering definitions, scope of the statistics, etc.

2. The wage rates used in the compilation of the indexes are the lowest rates for a full week's work (excluding overtime) prescribed for particular occupations in awards or determinations of Federal or State industrial authorities; in collective agreements registered with these authorities; or in unregistered collective agreements where these are dominant in particular industries. Because the indexes are designed to measure movements in prescribed minimum rates of *wages* as distinct from *salaries*, those awards, etc. which relate solely or mainly to salary earners are excluded. Because of delays in the receipt of notification of changes in wage rates as well as retrospective changes to rates, figures for July 1974 and subsequent months are subject to revision. As such revisions are made they are published in the normal monthly tables of this statement.

3. The indexes are designed to measure trends in wage rates in current awards, etc. excluding the effects of changes in the relative importance of industries, awards and occupations. The weighted average wage rates shown in these tables are therefore indexes expressed in money terms, and do not purport to be actual current averages. Similarly, neither these weighted average wage rates nor the corresponding index numbers measure the relative levels of average current wage rates as between States or industries.

TABLE 1. - WEEKLY AND HOURLY WAGE RATES : ADULT MALES AND ADULT FEMALES
ALL INDUSTRY GROUPS, AUSTRALIA (a)

Weighted average minimum weekly rates payable for a full week's work (excluding overtime), as prescribed in awards, determinations and collective agreements; weighted average minimum hourly rates payable; and index numbers of wage rates.

End of -	Adult males (b)					Adult females (c)				
	Weekly wage rates		Index Nos. (1954 = 100) (e)	Hourly wage rates		Index Nos. (1954 = 100) (e)	Weekly wage rates		Index Nos. (1954 = 100) (e)	Hourly wage rates
	Wage rates \$	Annual change(d) %		Wage rates (cents)	Index Nos. (1954 = 100) (e)		Wage rates \$	Annual change(d) %		
1974 - December	105.42	35.7	373.3	263.59	372.6	91.49	40.4	459.6	230.63	459.7
1975 - January	105.66	34.7	374.1	264.18	373.4	92.73	39.8	465.8	233.75	465.9
February	105.97	34.6	375.2	264.99	374.5	93.75	40.5	470.9	236.33	471.1
March	107.28	34.7	379.9	268.36	379.3	95.78	43.1	481.1	241.45	481.3
April	107.47	25.9	380.5	268.82	380.0	96.38	37.7	484.1	242.96	484.3
May	112.35	20.4	397.8	279.99	395.7	101.83	31.9	511.5	256.69	511.6
June	112.72	18.4	399.1	280.95	397.1	103.82	28.7	521.5	261.70	521.6
July	112.86	16.0	399.6	281.29	397.6	104.27	24.8	523.8	262.84	523.9
August	113.12	15.4	400.6	281.95	398.5	104.52	21.1	525.0	263.47	525.2
September	117.27	14.9	415.2	292.29	413.1	108.08	22.3	542.9	272.46	543.1
October	117.34	13.0	415.5	292.47	413.4	108.09	20.3	542.9	272.47	543.1
November	117.35	12.0	415.5	292.51	413.4	108.12	19.6	543.1	272.54	543.2
December	117.37	11.3	415.6	292.57	413.5	108.12	18.2	543.1	272.54	543.2

(a) Figures subject to revision. See explanatory notes above. (b) Excludes rural industry. Hourly rates also exclude shipping and stevedoring. The former is not included in the wage rates index and for the latter definite particulars for the computation of hourly wage rates are not available. (c) Excludes rural industry; mining and quarrying; and building and construction. (d) Percentage change over the same month of the previous year. These percentages may fluctuate from month to month owing to the timing of significant award changes. (e) Base : Weighted average wage rate, Australia, year 1954 = 100.

TABLE 2. - WEEKLY WAGE RATES : ADULT MALES, INDUSTRY GROUPS, 31 DECEMBER 1975 (a)

Weighted average minimum weekly rates payable for a full week's work (excluding overtime), as prescribed in awards, determinations and collective agreements; and index numbers of wage rates.

Industry group	Wage rates (\$)							Annual change (b) %	Index Nos. (Base 1954 = 100) (c)
	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia		
Mining and quarrying (d)	160.77	115.08	150.48	111.86	112.94	129.14	145.90	18.8	516.6
Manufacturing -									
Engineering, metals, vehicles, etc.	105.98	112.86	119.58	110.71	104.21	111.09	109.74	8.3	388.6
Textiles, clothing and footwear	105.62	106.12	108.81	105.23	110.35	100.75	106.03	15.0	375.4
Food, drink and tobacco	114.07	112.23	118.17	110.46	108.80	109.81	113.71	12.1	402.6
Sawmilling, furniture, etc.	114.29	107.16	117.65	107.12	105.98	106.46	111.53	9.9	394.9
Paper, printing, etc.	115.34	121.77	130.03	118.95	116.66	115.62	119.16	11.3	421.9
Other manufacturing	112.24	113.57	113.96	111.70	109.85	108.01	112.53	11.0	398.5
<i>All manufacturing groups</i>	<i>109.18</i>	<i>112.25</i>	<i>118.36</i>	<i>110.82</i>	<i>107.25</i>	<i>109.81</i>	<i>111.21</i>	<i>10.1</i>	<i>393.8</i>
Building and construction (e)	127.90	130.62	120.66	127.33	114.75	119.18	125.70	13.9	445.1
Railway services	107.16	102.75	126.32	107.38	97.73	107.98	110.18	8.0	390.1
Road and air transport	120.88	113.62	112.56	112.52	112.45	115.81	116.40	8.3	412.1
Shipping and stevedoring (f)	146.87	147.38	140.44	138.76	148.57	143.42	144.84	22.5	512.8
Communication	141.79	142.40	141.29	140.52	142.12	137.88	141.67	8.4	501.6
Wholesale and retail trade	117.93	119.90	116.08	112.35	113.04	118.85	117.31	10.9	415.4
Public authority (n.e.i.) and community and business services	122.21	118.01	124.21	110.55	112.02	127.82	119.62	14.9	423.6
Amusement, hotels, personal service, etc.	110.88	108.71	110.70	105.47	102.32	103.52	108.89	11.5	385.5
<i>All industry groups (g)</i>	<i>117.72</i>	<i>116.84</i>	<i>122.01</i>	<i>115.01</i>	<i>111.73</i>	<i>116.93</i>	<i>117.37</i>	<i>11.3</i>	<i>415.6</i>

(a) Figures subject to revision. See explanatory notes on page 1. (b) Percentage change over the same month of the previous year. These percentages may fluctuate from month to month owing to the timing of significant award changes. (c) Base : Weighted average weekly wage rate, Australia, year 1954 = 100. (d) For mining, wage rates used are those prescribed for the principal mining centres and include lead bonuses, etc. (e) The weekly rates used in the index for occupations specified in the National Building Trades Construction Award include the weekly base rate of pay, the special allowance and the industry allowance. (f) Includes wage rates (and value of keep) for occupations in the coastal shipping service, other than masters, officers and engineers. (g) Excludes rural industry.

TABLE 3. - WEEKLY WAGE RATES : ADULT FEMALES, INDUSTRY GROUPS, 31 DECEMBER 1975 (a)

Weighted average minimum weekly rates payable for a full week's work (excluding overtime), as prescribed in awards, determinations and collective agreements; and index numbers of wage rates.

Industry group	Wage rates (\$)							Annual change (b) %	Index Nos. (Base 1954 = 100) (c)
	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia		
Manufacturing -									
Engineering, metals, vehicles, etc.	105.52	111.73	106.82	99.00	103.74	107.05	106.86	14.5	536.8
Textiles, clothing and footwear	101.84	100.34	101.16	101.43	103.47	95.67	101.01	24.6	507.4
Food, drink and tobacco	109.03	107.13	107.52	99.07	96.24	101.95	106.47	16.5	534.8
Other manufacturing	106.79	108.67	107.34	100.56	103.92	103.09	106.92	18.0	537.1
<i>All manufacturing groups</i>	<i>104.64</i>	<i>104.30</i>	<i>104.49</i>	<i>100.03</i>	<i>101.96</i>	<i>99.89</i>	<i>104.04</i>	<i>20.0</i>	<i>522.6</i>
Transport and communication	111.13	112.46	117.01	113.15	108.52	117.79	112.62	12.0	565.7
Wholesale and retail trade	115.98	119.51	111.05	106.22	110.71	109.91	114.78	17.0	576.5
Public authority (n.e.i.) and community and business services	113.33	113.70	112.97	99.84	101.72	110.08	111.68	19.5	561.0
Amusement, hotels, personal service, etc.	106.89	103.59	104.93	98.64	96.66	99.26	104.27	15.5	523.8
<i>All industry groups (d)</i>	<i>108.97</i>	<i>108.70</i>	<i>108.87</i>	<i>102.80</i>	<i>104.88</i>	<i>104.85</i>	<i>108.12</i>	<i>18.2</i>	<i>543.1</i>

(a) Figures subject to revision. See explanatory notes on page 1. (b) Percentage change over the same month of the previous year. These percentages may fluctuate from month to month owing to the timing of significant award changes. (c) Base : Weighted average weekly wage rate, Australia, year 1954 = 100. (d) Excludes rural industry; mining and quarrying; and building and construction.

TABLE 4. - WEEKLY WAGE RATES : ADULT MALES AND ADULT FEMALES, ALL GROUPS (a) (\$)

Weighted average minimum weekly rates payable for a full week's work (excluding overtime), as prescribed in awards, determinations and collective agreements.

End of -	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia		
							Federal awards, etc.	State awards, etc.	All awards, etc.
ADULT MALES (b)									
1974 -									
December	105.51	105.15	109.16	103.32	101.04	106.02	105.64	105.19	105.42
1975 -									
January	105.65	105.43	109.48	103.61	101.41	106.32	105.93	105.36	105.66
February	106.16	105.58	109.93	103.66	101.49	106.38	106.01	104.92	105.97
March	107.87	106.79	110.45	105.80	101.56	107.51	108.75	105.51	107.28
April	108.01	107.01	110.71	105.88	101.85	107.61	108.90	105.73	107.47
May	112.62	112.06	116.65	110.32	106.12	112.47	113.63	110.79	112.35
June	112.90	112.65	116.78	110.99	106.36	112.59	113.79	111.43	112.72
July	112.93	112.84	117.08	111.01	106.77	112.67	113.87	111.64	112.86
August	112.88	112.86	117.14	111.00	110.64	112.67	113.87	112.22	113.12
September	117.65	116.77	121.96	114.83	111.33	116.66	118.55	115.71	117.27
October	117.70	116.83	121.97	114.96	111.64	116.66	118.55	115.86	117.34
November	117.71	116.83	121.98	114.95	111.65	116.93	118.57	115.87	117.35
December	117.72	116.84	122.01	115.01	111.73	116.93	118.62	115.87	117.37
ADULT FEMALES (c)									
1974 -									
December	93.06	89.97	91.95	91.22	87.65	92.47	87.62	94.86	91.49
1975 -									
January	93.32	91.84	94.36	91.97	90.79	94.18	88.06	96.78	92.73
February	94.85	92.10	96.38	92.69	91.41	94.35	88.40	98.41	93.75
March	96.76	94.79	98.05	93.81	92.42	96.00	92.31	98.81	95.78
April	97.51	95.30	98.42	93.92	93.64	96.21	92.75	99.54	96.38
May	102.40	102.79	101.93	98.17	96.95	99.72	96.17	106.75	101.83
June	104.92	104.85	102.88	99.05	98.23	100.84	98.63	108.32	103.82
July	105.16	105.04	104.81	99.19	99.60	101.08	98.99	108.86	104.27
August	105.25	105.04	104.81	99.27	103.51	101.19	98.99	109.33	104.52
September	108.97	108.70	108.61	102.76	104.78	104.85	102.45	112.97	108.08
October	108.97	108.70	108.61	102.76	104.86	104.85	102.45	112.98	108.09
November	108.97	108.70	108.87	102.76	104.88	104.85	102.51	112.98	108.12
December	108.97	108.70	108.87	102.80	104.88	104.85	102.51	112.99	108.12

(a) Figures subject to revision. See explanatory notes on page 1. (b) Excludes rural industry. (c) Excludes rural industry; mining and quarrying; and building and construction.

D. V. YOUNGMAN
Acting Commonwealth Statistician

Australian Bureau of Statistics
Canberra, A.C.T. 2600

NOTE. Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made in Canberra by telephoning Mr G. Laurie on 52 6573 or, in each State capital, by telephoning the office of the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

N/ Bird

DAP

Ng

3312994
AUS

